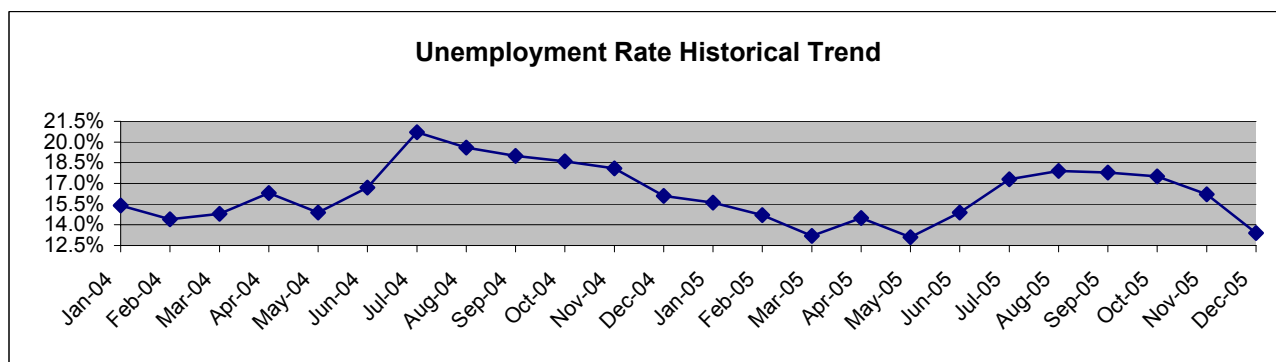


IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
 EL CENTRO METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA (MSA)  
 (Imperial County)

The unemployment rate in Imperial County was 13.4 percent in December 2005, down from a revised 16.2 percent in November 2005, and below the year-ago estimate of 16.1 percent. This compares with an unadjusted unemployment rate of 4.8 percent for California and 4.6 percent for the nation during the same period.



Industry	Nov-2005	Dec-2005	Change		Dec-2004	Dec-2005	Change
Total Jobs	53,600	54,500	900		51,200	54,500	3,300
Farm Jobs	8,900	9,600	700		9,600	9,600	0
Nonfarm Jobs	44,700	44,900	200		41,600	44,900	3,300
Natural Resources, Mining and Construction	2,100	2,100	0		1,700	2,100	400
Manufacturing	2,500	2,500	0		2,200	2,500	300
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	12,000	12,300	300		10,500	12,300	1,800
Information	400	400	0		400	400	0
Financial Activities	1,400	1,400	0		1,400	1,400	0
Professional and Business Services	2,200	2,200	0		2,100	2,200	100
Educational and Health Services	2,700	2,700	0		2,500	2,700	200
Leisure and Hospitality	3,300	3,300	0		3,000	3,300	300
Other Services	900	900	0		900	900	0
Government	17,200	17,100	(100)		16,900	17,100	200

Notes: Data not adjusted for seasonality

Data may not add due to rounding

Additional data are available on-line at [www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov](http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov)

**El Centro MSA**  
**Imperial County**  
Industry Employment & Labor Force  
March 2004 Benchmark

Data Not Adjusted for Seasonality

	Dec 04	Oct 05	Nov 05 Revised	Dec 05 Prelim.	Percent Change Month Year	
Civilian Labor Force (1)	60,000	64,900	64,500	63,400	-1.7%	5.7%
Civilian Employment	50,400	53,500	54,000	54,900	1.7%	8.9%
Civilian Unemployment	9,700	11,400	10,400	8,500	-18.3%	-12.4%
Civilian Unemployment Rate	16.1%	17.5%	16.2%	13.4%		
(CA Unemployment Rate)	5.7%	5.0%	5.1%	4.8%		
(U.S. Unemployment Rate)	5.1%	4.6%	4.8%	4.6%		

Total, All Industries (2)	51,200	52,500	53,600	54,500	1.7%	6.4%
Total Farm	9,600	8,300	8,900	9,600	7.9%	0.0%
Total Nonfarm	41,600	44,200	44,700	44,900	0.4%	7.9%
Total Private	24,700	27,300	27,500	27,800	1.1%	12.6%
Goods Producing	3,900	4,700	4,600	4,600	0.0%	17.9%
Natural Resources, Mining and Construction	1,700	2,100	2,100	2,100	0.0%	23.5%
Manufacturing	2,200	2,600	2,500	2,500	0.0%	13.6%
Durable Goods	900	1,000	1,000	1,000	0.0%	11.1%
Nondurable Goods	1,300	1,600	1,500	1,500	0.0%	15.4%
Service Providing	37,700	39,500	40,100	40,300	0.5%	6.9%
Private Service Producing	20,800	22,600	22,900	23,200	1.3%	11.5%
Trade, Transportation and Utilities	10,500	11,800	12,000	12,300	2.5%	17.1%
Wholesale Trade	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	0.0%	0.0%
Retail Trade	6,900	8,300	8,500	8,800	3.5%	27.5%
Food and Beverage Stores	1,400	1,500	1,500	1,500	0.0%	7.1%
General Merchandise Stores	2,000	2,600	2,700	3,000	11.1%	50.0%
Residual-Miscellaneous Store Retailers	3,500	4,200	4,300	4,300	0.0%	22.9%
Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities	1,800	1,700	1,700	1,700	0.0%	-5.6%
Information	400	400	400	400	0.0%	0.0%
Financial Activities	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,400	0.0%	0.0%
Finance and Insurance	800	800	800	800	0.0%	0.0%
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	600	600	600	600	0.0%	0.0%
Professional and Business Services	2,100	2,200	2,200	2,200	0.0%	4.8%
Educational and Health Services	2,500	2,700	2,700	2,700	0.0%	8.0%
Leisure and Hospitality	3,000	3,200	3,300	3,300	0.0%	10.0%
Food Services and Drinking Places	2,600	2,700	2,800	2,800	0.0%	7.7%
Residual-Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	400	500	500	500	0.0%	25.0%
Other Services	900	900	900	900	0.0%	0.0%
Government	16,900	16,900	17,200	17,100	-0.6%	1.2%
Federal Government	2,100	2,000	2,000	2,000	0.0%	-4.8%
State and Local Government	14,800	14,900	15,200	15,100	-0.7%	2.0%
State Government	2,600	2,600	2,600	2,600	0.0%	0.0%
Local Government	12,200	12,300	12,600	12,500	-0.8%	2.5%

Note 1: Civilian labor force data are by place of residence; include self-employed individuals, unpaid family workers, household domestic workers, & workers on strike.

Note 2: Industry employment is by place of work; excludes self-employed individuals, unpaid family workers, household domestic workers, & workers on strike.

These data are produced by the Labor Market Information Division of the California State Employment Development Department (EDD). Questions should be directed to: Cheryl Mason-858/689-6544 or Thomas Flournoy (951/955-3204)

These data, as well as other labor market data, are available via the Internet at <http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov>. If you need assistance, please call (916) 262-2162.

#####